

REMARKS

At the outset, Applicant thanks the Examiner for courtesies extended to Applicant's representatives during the personal interview on June 24, 2004 and the thorough review and consideration of the subject application. The Non-Final Office Action of March 3, 2004 has been received and its contents carefully reviewed.

In the Non-Final Office Action of March 3, 2004, the Examiner rejected claims 1, 8-11, 17, 23, 24, 27, 29-33, 35, 37, 39, 40, and 42 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Franklin et al. (European Pat. App. Pub. No. 0 477 882 A2); rejected claims 2, 3, 12, 18, and 36 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Franklin et al. in view of Deanne et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,627,305); and rejected claims 4-7, 13-16, 19-22, 25, 26, 28, 34, 38, and 41 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Franklin et al. in view of Moseley et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,046,849). These rejections are traversed and reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

The rejection of claims 1, 8-11, 17, 23, 24, 27, 29-33, 35, 37, 39, 40, and 42 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Franklin et al. is respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested.

Independent claim 1, as presently amended, is allowable over Franklin et al. in that claim 1 recites a combination of elements including, at least "a liquid crystal display panel... a polarizer for passing a portion of the modulated light from the liquid crystal display... a transparent substrate directly on the polarizer; and a retarder material directly on the transparent substrate for separating light polarization that passes through the polarizer and the transparent substrate...." Franklin et al. fails to teach or suggest, either expressly or inherently, at least these features of the claimed invention. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 8-10 and 31, which depend from claim 1, are also allowable over Franklin et al.

Independent claim 11 is allowable over Franklin et al. in that claim 11 recites a combination of elements including, for example "a polarizer polarizing light transmitted by a display panel; and a retarder material directly on a transparent substrate... wherein said transparent substrate is adhered directly to the polarizer." Franklin et al. fails to teach or suggest, either expressly or inherently, at least these features of the claimed invention.

Independent claim 17 is allowable over Franklin et al. in that claim 17 recites a combination of elements including, for example "preparing a polarizer for polarizing light

transmitted by a display panel; preparing a transparent substrate... forming a retarder material directly on the transparent substrate... and adhering the transparent substrate directly to the polarizer.” Franklin et al. fails to teach or suggest, either expressly or inherently, at least these features of the claimed invention.

Independent claim 23, as presently amended, is allowable over Franklin et al. in that claim 23 recites a combination of elements including, for example “a polarizer... a transparent substrate directly on the polarizer; and a retarder material directly on said transparent substrate....” Franklin et al. fails to teach or suggest, either expressly or inherently, at least these features of the claimed invention. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 27, 30, and 31, which depend from claim 23, are also allowable over Franklin et al.

Independent claim 32 is allowable over Franklin et al. in that claim 32 recites a combination of elements including, for example “a polarizer polarizing light transmitted by a display panel; a transparent substrate in contact with the polarizer; and a retarder material in contact with the transparent substrate.” Franklin et al. fails to teach or suggest, either expressly or inherently, at least these features of the claimed invention. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 35, 37, 39, 40, and 42, which depend from claim 32, are also allowable over Franklin et al.

The rejection of claims 2, 3, 12, 18, and 36 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Franklin et al. in view of Deanne et al. is respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested.

Claims 2, 3, 12, 18, and 36 variously depend from independent claims 1, 11, 17, and 32 and, therefore, include all of the features set forth in claims 1, 11, 17, and 32. As described above, Franklin et al. fails to teach at least the aforementioned features set forth in claims 1, 11, 17, and 32. Even if Deanne et al. discloses the various features asserted by the Examiner, and even if Deanne et al. could be combined with Franklin et al. as suggested by the Examiner, Applicant respectfully submits that Deanne et al. fails to cure the aforementioned deficiencies of Franklin et al. with respect to claims 1, 11, 17, and 32. Accordingly, Applicant submits that claims 2, 3, 12, 18, and 36 are allowable over the Examiner’s cited combination of Franklin et al. in view of Deanne et al. by virtue of their dependencies from claims 1, 11, 17, and 32 and requests withdrawal of the present rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

The rejection of claims 4-7, 13-16, 19-22, 25, 26, 28, 34, 38, and 41 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Franklin et al. in view of Moseley et al. is respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested.

Claims 4-7, 13-16, 19-22, 25, 26, 28, 34, 38, and 41 variously depend from independent claims 1, 11, 17, 23, and 32 and, therefore, include all of the features set forth in claims 1, 11, 17, 23, and 32. As described above Franklin et al. fails to teach at least the aforementioned features set forth in claims 1, 11, 17, 23, and 32. Even if Moseley et al. discloses the various features asserted by the Examiner, and even if Moseley et al. could be combined with Franklin et al. as suggested by the Examiner, Applicant respectfully submits that Moseley et al. fails to cure the aforementioned deficiencies of Franklin et al. with respect to claims 1, 11, 17, 23, and 32. Accordingly, Applicant submits that claims 4-7, 13-16, 19-22, 25, 26, 28, 34, 38, and 41 are allowable over the Examiner's cited combination of Franklin et al. in view of Moseley et al. by virtue of their dependencies from claims 1, 11, 17, 23, and 32 and requests withdrawal of the present rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

If the Examiner deems that a telephone conversation would further the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at (202) 496-7500.


Application No.: 10/024,222
Amendment dated July 6, 2004
Reply to non-final Office Action dated March 3, 2004

Docket No.: 8733.445.00-US

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. §1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

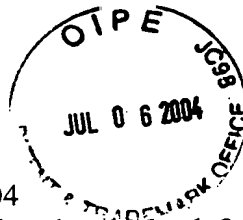
Dated: July 6, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

By 
Kurt M. Eaton

Registration No.: 51,640
MCKENNA LONG & ALDRIDGE LLP
1900 K Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20006
(202) 496-7500
Attorney for Applicant

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Kurt M. Eaton

Registration No.: 51,640
MCKENNA LONG & ALDRIDGE LLP
1900 K Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20006
(202) 496-7500
Attorney for Applicant